

How to change rear brake pads on BMW E46 touring – replacement guide

 VIDEO TUTORIAL

Important!

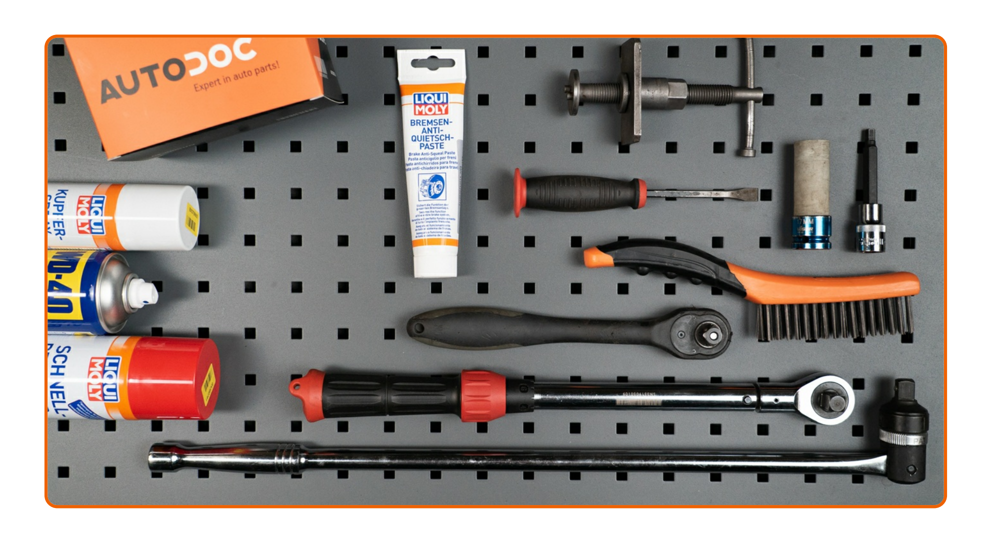
This replacement procedure can be used for:
BMW 3 (E46) 330 d, BMW 3 (E46) 330 xd, BMW 3 Convertible (E46) 330 Cd, BMW 3 Coupe (E46) 330 Cd, BMW 3 Touring (E46) 330 d, BMW 3 Touring (E46) 330 xd, BMW X3 (E83) 3.0 d, BMW X5 (E53) 3.0 d

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The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.



REPLACEMENT: BRAKE PADS – BMW E46 TOURING. TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:



- Wire brush
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Anti-squeal paste
- HEX bit No.H7.
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Torque wrench
- Brake caliper wind back tool
- Crow bar
- Wheel chock



Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. AUTODOC recommends:

- Perform the replacement of brake pads in complete set for each axis. This provides effective braking.
- The replacement procedure is identical for all brake pads on the same axle.
- All work should be done with the engine stopped.

REPLACEMENT: BRAKE PADS – BMW E46 TOURING. USE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE:

1



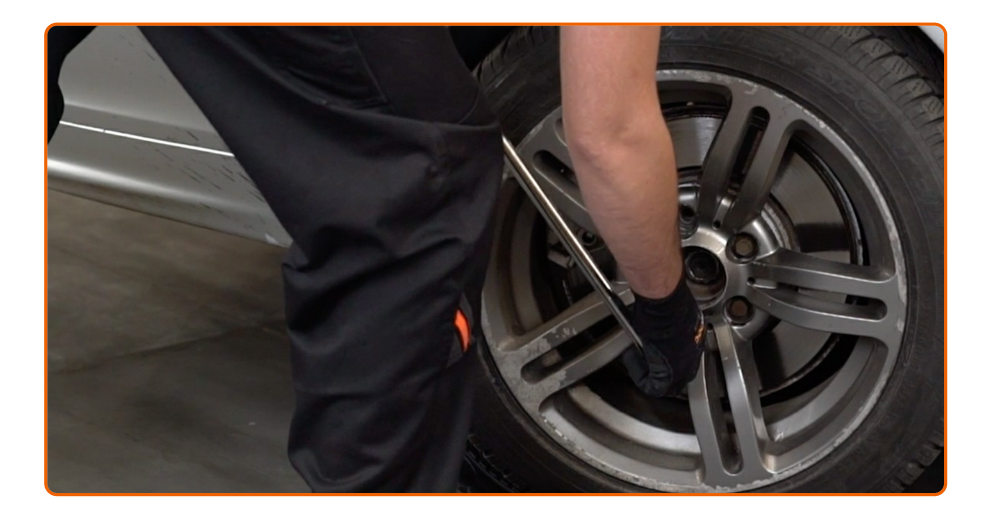
Open the bonnet. Unscrew the brake fluid reservoir cap.

2



Secure the wheels with chocks.

3



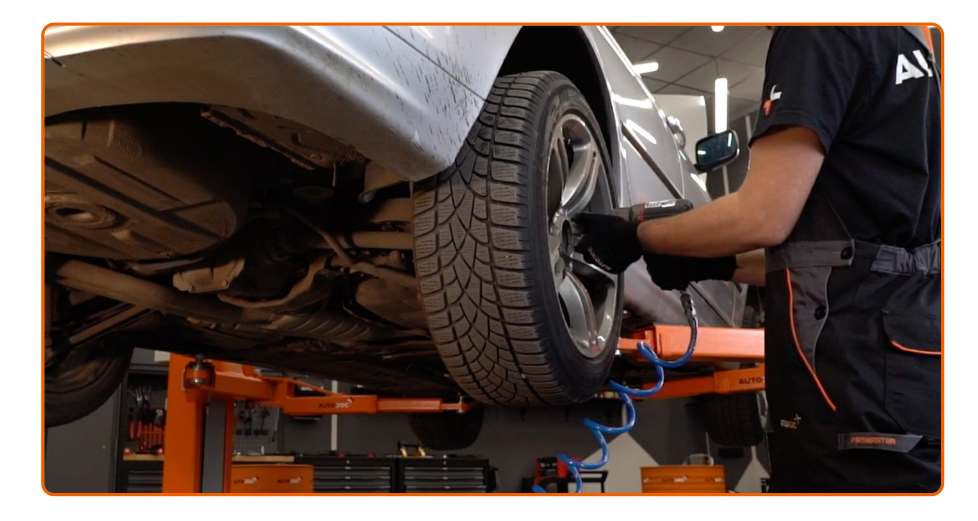
Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

4



Raise the rear of the car and secure on supports.

5



Unscrew the wheel bolts.



Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when unscrewing the bolts.

6



Remove the wheel.

7



Remove the dust boot caps of the brake caliper guide pins. Use a crowbar.

8



Spread the brake pads. Use a crowbar.

9



Unscrew the brake caliper fastening. Use HEX No.H7. Use a ratchet wrench.

10



Detach the brake caliper retaining spring. Use a crowbar.

11



Remove the brake caliper.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Tie the caliper to the suspension or to the body with a wire without disconnecting from the brake hose to prevent depressurization of the brake system.
- Make sure that the brake caliper is not hanging on the brake hose.
- Don't press the brake pedal after the brake caliper has been removed. As a result, the piston can fall out from the brake cylinder, and brake fluid leakage and depressurization of the system may occur.

12



Remove the brake pads. Use a crowbar.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. Tip:

- Measure the brake disc thickness. Upon reaching the wear limit the part must be replaced.

13



Disconnect the brake pads wear sensor. Use a crowbar.



Please note!

- Some cars are not equipped with the brake pad wear sensor.

14



Clean the brake caliper bracket from dirt and dust. Use a wire brush. Use a brake cleaner.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

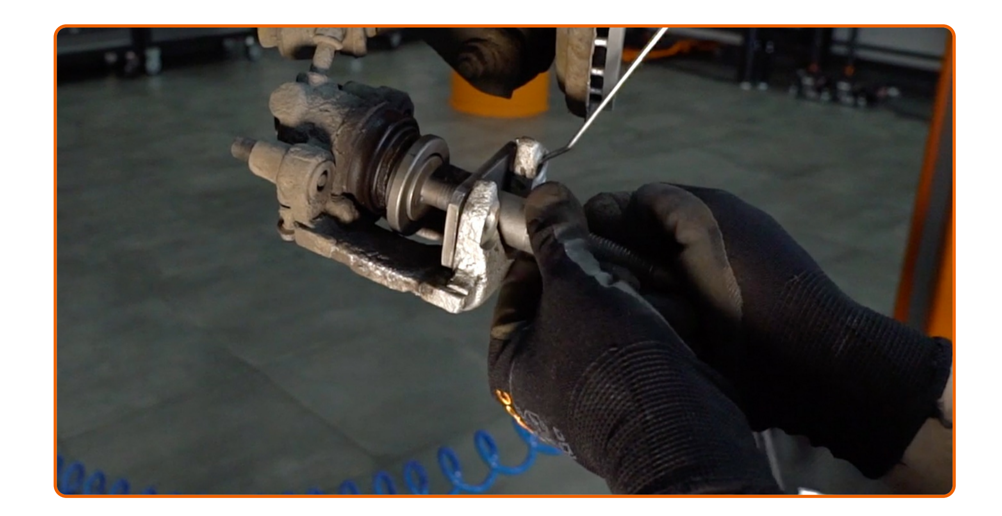
15

Treat the brake caliper piston. Use a brake cleaner.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. Tip:

- After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

16



Press in the brake caliper piston. Use brake caliper wind back tool.

17

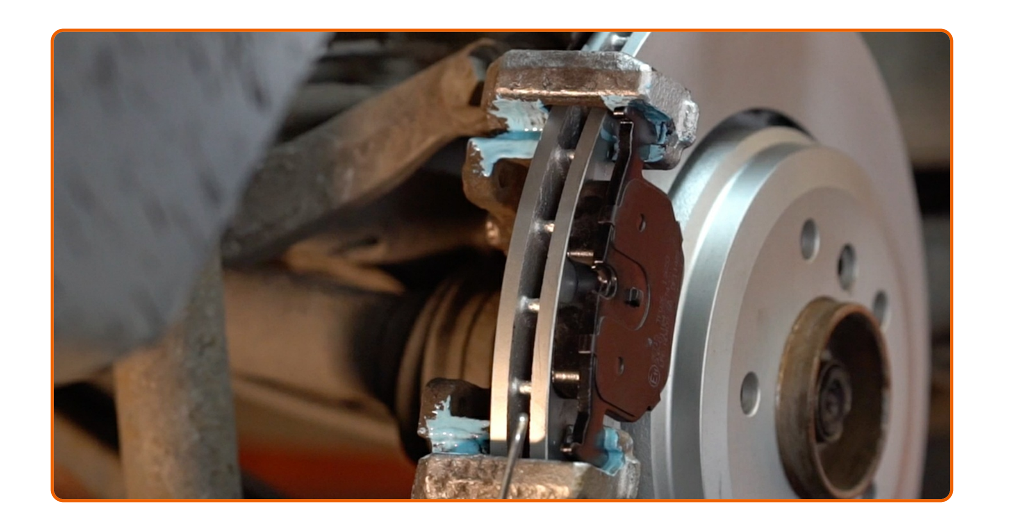


Treat the brake caliper bracket where it contacts the brake pads. Use anti-squeal paste.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. Tip from AUTODOC:

- Make sure the disc surface is clean before installing the pads.

18



Install new brake pads.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. AUTODOC recommends:

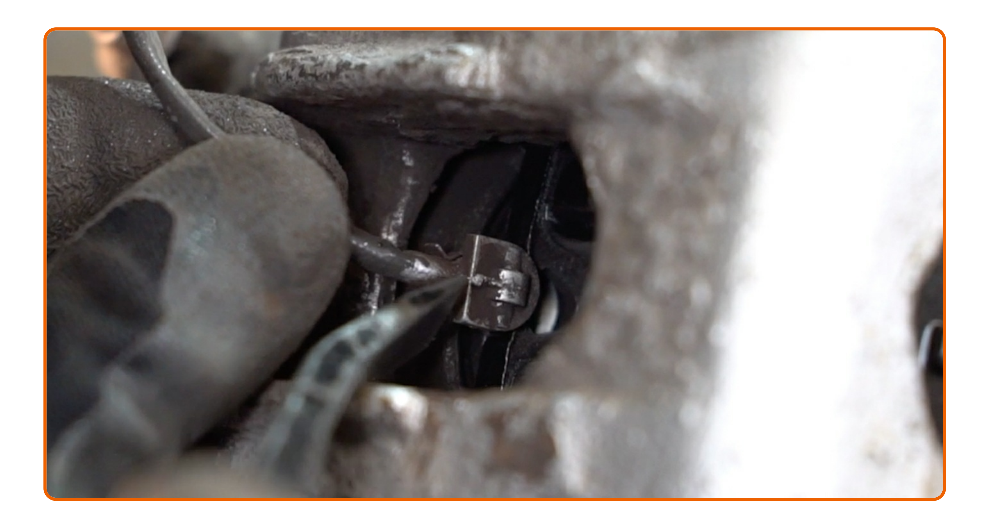
- Make sure the pads are installed with linings facing the disc.

19



Clean the brake caliper guide pins. Use a wire brush.

20



Connect the brake pads wear sensor. Use a crowbar.

21



Install the brake caliper and fix it. Use HEX No.H7. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 35 Nm torque.

22



Install the dust boot caps of the brake caliper guide pins.

23



Install the brake caliper retaining spring.

24

Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

25



Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.

26



Install the wheel.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- To avoid injury, hold up the wheel when screwing in the fastening bolts.

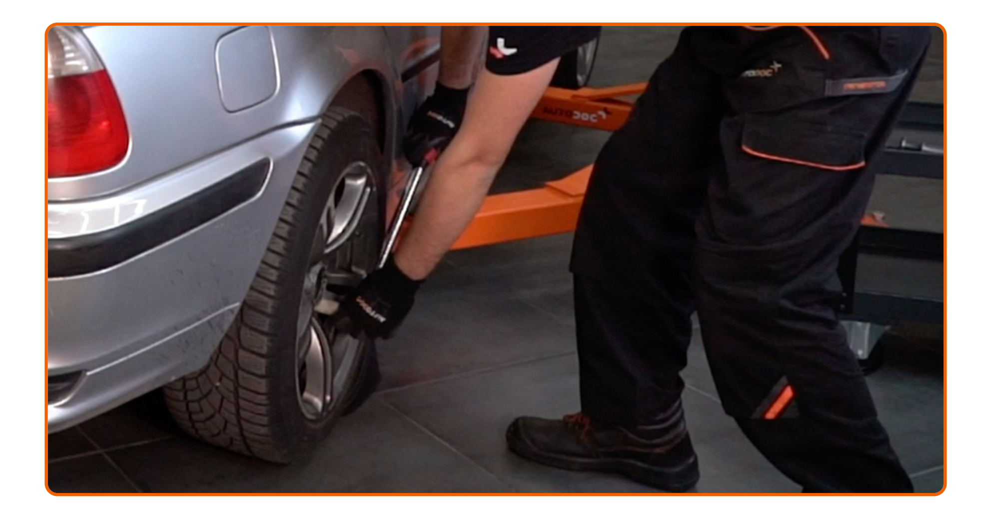


27



Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.

28



Lower the car and working in a cross order, tighten the wheel bolts. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.

29



Remove the jacks and chocks.

AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. Check the brake fluid level in the reservoir and top up if necessary.

30



Tighten the brake fluid reservoir cap.

AUTODOC recommends:

- BMW E46 touring – Press the brake pedal several times with the engine shut down until you feel the resistance built up.

31



Close the hood.

Replacement: brake pads – BMW E46 touring. Professionals recommend:

- Slow down smoothly for first 150-200 km after the brake pads replacement. Avoid unneccessary and sharp braking to a stop.

DID YOU FIND THESE INSTRUCTIONS HELPFUL?

YES

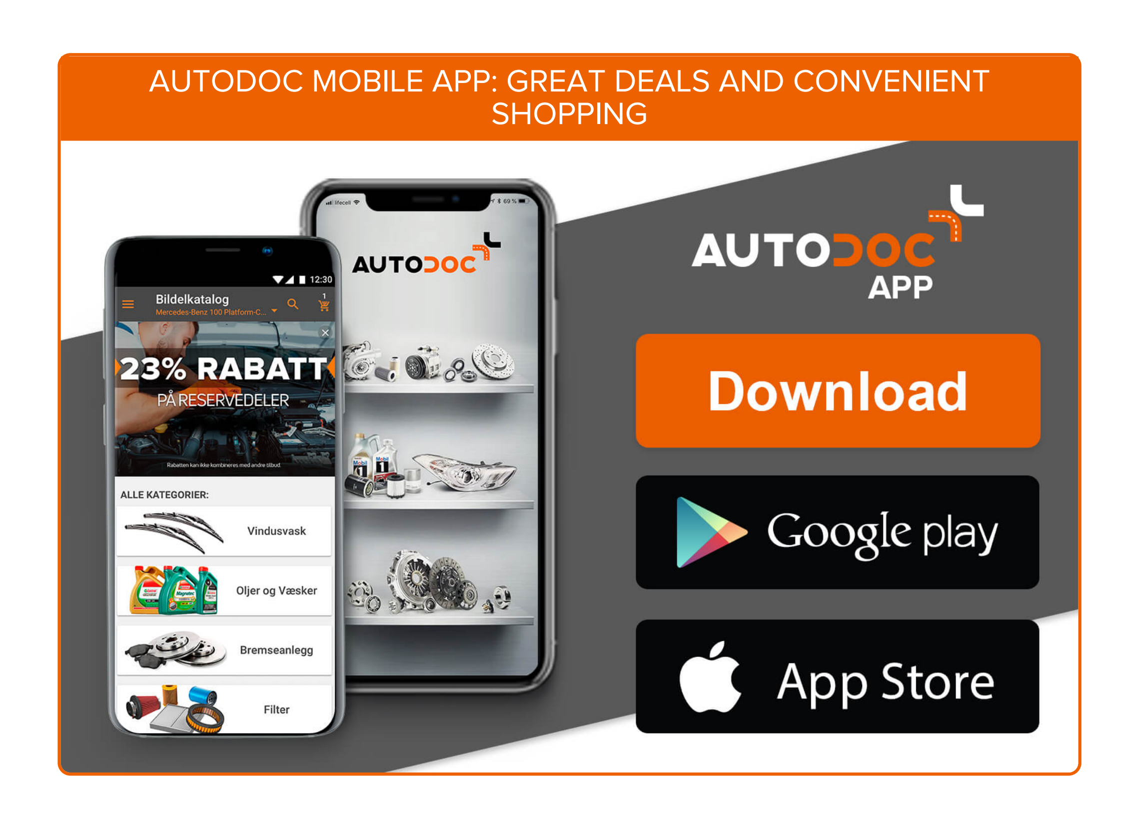
NO



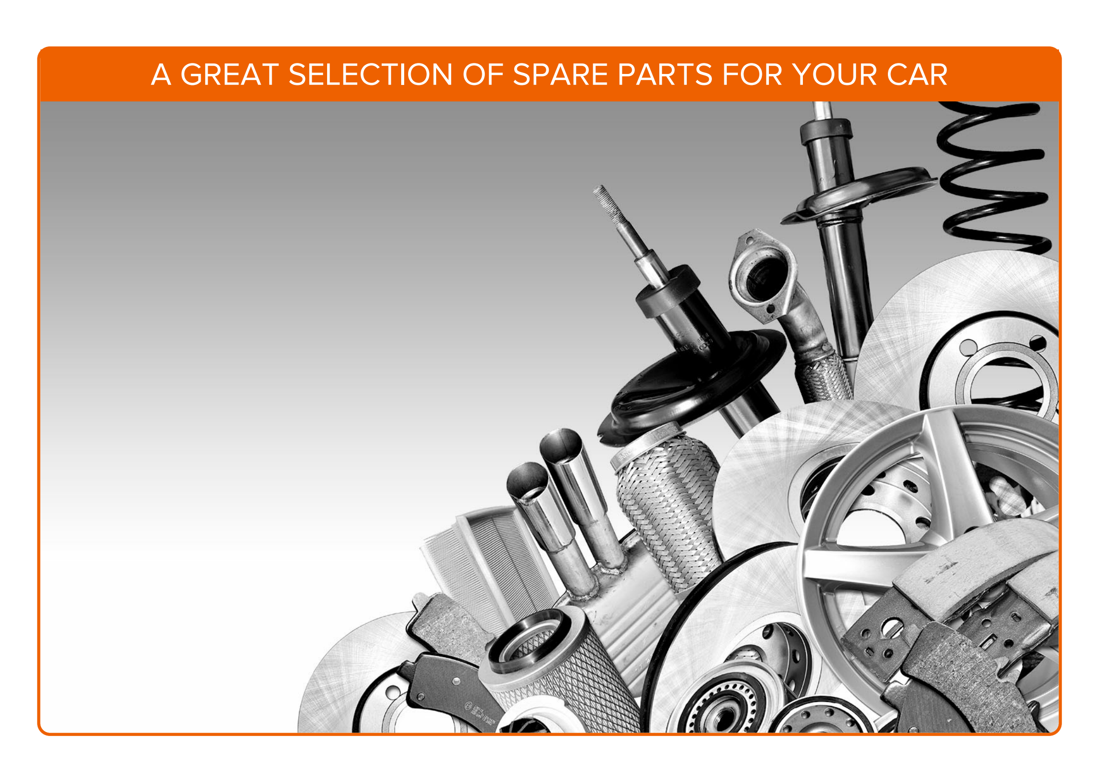
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